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United States
Department of
Agriculture
Foreign
Agricultural
Service
Washington, D.C. 20250

WEEKLY ROUNDUP OF WORLD PRODUCTION AND TRADE

WR 4-84

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25—The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following developments in world agriculture and trade:

GRAIN AND FEED

CANADA reportedly has sold a record 625,000 tons of wheat to Egypt. Canada has been an erratic supplier of wheat to Egypt in the past, shipping as much as 550,000 tons in 1977/78 and shipping nothing in other years; last season, the Canadians shipped only 28,000 tons to Egypt. This recent sale includes 500,000 tons of Canadian red wheat and 125,000 tons of white wheat at a reported price of \$156.70 and \$152.20 per ton c&f, respectively. Sales terms are reported as follows: 10 percent payment at the time of shipment, payment scheduled in three equal installments over three years and interest rates set at those prevailing at the time of payment.

Speculation continues as to whether INDIA will buy more wheat for July-June 1983/84 delivery. Current purchases from Argentina, Canada and the United States will be shipped before July, but the possibility of a large purchase from Australia has re-emerged during the past week. Indian foodgrain stock levels (wheat and rice) as of Dec. 1, 1983, totaled 14.8 million tons, 2.8 million tons above last year at the same time.

Despite what appear to be adequate stocks, foodgrain prices have continued an upward trend. In response to this, India has increased the allocation of wheat to roller flour mills and to fair price/ration shops by 20 percent. India also will supply wheat and rice to people working under the National Rural Employment Program and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Scheme at subsidized prices. The quantities of grain involved in the two subsidization programs and the number of people affected are not that significant, but the net effect of both policy changes should help to bring about the desired stabilization of prices. However, the faster drawdown of stocks resulting from increased distribution could provide a rationale for further imports of wheat.

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DAIRY, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

JAPAN's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has announced the final allocation of beef import quotas for the second half of Japan fiscal year (JFY) 1983. By increasing the general quota an additional 29,000 tons to a total of 61,200, Japan finalized its second half level of quotas at 69,000 tons, an increase of 4,000 over the second half of JFY 1982. The special quotas (hotels, Okinawa, school lunch and boiled beef) did not receive additional allocations for the second half of JFY 1983 and therefore remain at 7,800 tons, the same as in the second half of JFY 1982. Beef import quotas for all of JFY 1983 total 141,000 compared with 135,000 in JFY 1982.

Census reports for 1983 in the GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC show cattle numbers up 1.1 percent to 5.75 million head, hog numbers up 6 percent to 12.84 million head, and sheep numbers up 7.3 percent to 2.36 million head. The buildup in animal inventories from 1982 occurred mainly as a result of mild winter weather and lower animal death losses last year. Reports suggest that cattle and hog numbers will be reduced because of a tight feed supply situation.

COTTON AND FIBERS

MEXICO has announced an additional cotton export quota of 150,000 bales for the 1983/84 season. Reportedly, about 150,000 bales of the initial 200,000-bale quota was used before it expired Dec. 31, 1983. Total 1983/84 season Mexican exports are forecast at 425,000 bales.

TOBACCO

The UNITED KINGDOM's third largest tobacco manufacturer, Rothman-Carreras, announced it will close its factory in Basildon, Essex. The Basildon operation has a daily capacity of 60 million pieces; however, recent production has been only 28 million. The closing is blamed on a slump in both domestic cigarette consumption (down 18 percent since 1981) and export demand. Rothman-Carreras depends on the export market for 50 percent of its production. The firm will continue to produce at three plants; one in Northern Ireland and two in northeast England.

Rothman-Carreras also announced an increase in the retail price of its cigarettes by 2 pence per pack of 20. This will raise the price of a pack of king-size cigarettes to 1.11 pounds and larger than king-size to 1.13 pounds.

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AUSTRALIA's Minister of Primary Industry recently addressed the problem of reduced tobacco marketing quotas. He cited the reasons for reduced quotas as declining domestic consumption, a recent change in the required stock levels and the 50-percent mixing requirement that is bound under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). He indicated that the GATT binding is the most "complicating" and revealed that the Minister of Trade had explored the possibility of lifting the binding but had concluded that to do so would require lengthy multilateral negotiations. Foreign suppliers of tobacco to Australia could be expected to resist any effort to lift the binding. He suggested the alternative would be to reverse the government's decision to allow manufacturers to reduce their stock levels.

Forcing manufacturers to boost stock levels back to the 15-16 months' level would increase domestic leaf purchases only in the short term; quotas would have to be pulled down after the higher stock levels were met.

Tobacco production in the SOVIET UNION in 1983 could approach the planned 346,000 tons, up 13 percent from last year's 307,000-ton crop, according to the U.S. agricultural attache in Moscow. In Moldavia, which normally accounts for about one-third of total Soviet production, state purchases have reached 125,000 tons, 26 percent above 1982. In Azerbaijan, which accounts for about 18 percent of domestic production, purchases of the 1983 crop are reported to be 11 percent over the plan.

FRUITS AND NUTS

High levels of U.S. imports of MEXICAN winter vegetables are likely this season because of recent crop damage from freezes in Florida and Texas and increased plantings in the Mexican state of Sinaloa. Plantings of major winter vegetables as of December 31 in the Culiacan and Rio Fuerte Sur valleys of Sinaloa were up 30 and 34 percent, respectively, from the same point in the 1982/83 season. The Culiacan Valley accounts for about one-half of the vegetable area in Sinaloa and the Rio Fuerte Sur about 10 percent. Combined tomato area in the two regions at the end of December was up 23 percent over last season, peppers up 69 percent, cucumbers up 18 percent and zucchini up 48 percent. Locally heavy rains over the past two months forced replanting in some areas.

As of January 7, imports of Mexican tomatoes were up 94 percent over last season (September-August), bell peppers up 73 percent, squash up 9 percent and cucumbers up 39 percent.

Apple production for 1983/84 in the MAJOR PRODUCING COUNTRIES of the Northern Hemisphere has been revised to 13.6 million tons, 16 percent below the record volume harvested during the 1982/83 season. After last season's bumper crops throughout most of Europe, 1983/84 production in many European countries was off sharply due to extreme weather conditions (frost during early bloom, an unusually wet spring and one of the hottest, driest summers since 1976). Larger crops in Denmark, Norway, Greece, Spain and the United States, plus a record 1-million-ton crop in Japan, did not offset the decline in European output.

Apple production in the Southern Hemisphere for 1983/84 is expected to continue trending upward based on successively larger crops in Argentina and Chile. Additional increases in bearing area and yields projected for both countries over the next several years should more than offset the continuing decline in Australian output and the off-years resulting from the cyclical harvests in New Zealand and South Africa.

Pear production in the NORTHERN HEMISPHERE increased for the third consecutive year. Output for the 1983/84 season is estimated at 4.8 million tons, 7 percent above the 1982/83 volume. Unlike apples, pear crops benefitted from the unusual weather patterns in Europe during 1983, although in some countries, the dry weather adversely affected sizing. Most crops exhibited the normal "on-off" bearing tendency with marginal shifts from last season. However, record harvests were recorded in Japan and Yugoslavia.

Despite larger harvests in Argentina and Chile, pear output in the SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE for the 1983/84 season is expected to fall 2 percent short of the record 1982/83 volume—a reflection of the alternate bearing tendency and weather damage to the Australian and New Zealand crops.

APPLES & PEARS: PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES (1,000 tons)

		Apples-			Pears	
Country	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84 1/	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84 1/
NODTHEDN HEMTEDI	יכטכ					
NORTHERN HEMISPH		740	0.67	70	c-7	40
AUSTRIA	186	340	263	32	57	49
BELGIUM/						
LUXEMBOURG	134	270	203	58	97	93
CANADA	417	478	469	32	31	32
DENMARK	43	59	60	6	3	4
FRANCE	1,465	1,973	1,535	428	427	421
GERMANY, FED.	REP 773	2,637	1,313	276	534	380
GREECE	300	255	314	115	99	132
ITALY	1,773	2,634	2,072	487	493	534
JAPAN	846	924	1,001	487	493	534
MEXICO	280	343	263	31	41	42
NETHERLANDS	260	405	325	90	105	110
NORWAY	54	44	50	10	8	7
SPAIN	1,008	853	983	525	449	551
SWEDEN	29	43	42	6	5	5
SWITZERLAND	83	140	99	15	22	20
UNITED KINGDO	OM 227	340	300	49	40	55
UNITED STATES		3,681	3,718	814	729	702
YUGOSLAVIA	508	746	589	137	177	179
TOTAL	11,903	16,165	13,599	4,331	4,464	4,770

		Apples-		Pears		
Country	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84 1/	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84 1/
SOUTHERN HEMISPH	HERE					
ARGENTINA	804	817	900	138	176	180
AUSTRALIA	294	290	280	110	125	110
CHILE	335	355	380	45	49	52
NEW ZEALAND	235	218	240	17	11	12
SOUTH AFRICA	486	423	477	148	165	162
TOTAL	2,154	2,103	2,277	458	526	516
TOTAL SELECTED	14 057	10.000	15 07/	4 700	4 000	E 20.0
COUNTRIES	14,057	18,268	15,876	4,789	4,990	5,286

1/ Estimate.

Combined output of stone fruits in the NORTHERN HEMISPHERE totaled 9.0 million tons in 1983, 2 percent below the bumper harvest in 1982. Calendar year 1983 was a good year for stone fruits in Western Europe with substantial crops in France, Greece, Italy and Spain. Output in West Germany returned to more normal levels following a record outturn in 1982. Shorter crops in North America resulted from excessive rains in California and frost and rain damage throughout northeastern Mexico.

SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE stone fruit production in 1983 registered a 9-percent increase over 1982 with record crops of plums and cherries in Chile. An additional 3-percent increase in output is currently forecast for 1984 with larger stone fruit crops expected in Argentina and Chile.

STONE FRUIT: PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES 1/ (1,000 tons)

Country	1981	1982	1983 2/	1984 3/
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE				
CANADA	45.4	55.1	55.9	
FRANCE	802.7	816.2	825.9	
GERMANY, FED.REP.	299.2	990.2	681.2	
GREECE	575.7	576.1	666.6	
ITALY	2,011.0	2,101.7	2,251.6	
JAPAN	281.7	275.9	296.0	
MEXICO	173.5	199.9	163.2	
SPAIN	796.0	812.0	884.0	
UNITED STATES	2,411.6	2,120.5	1,906.1	
YUGOSLAVIA	1,084.8	1,307.7	1,295.0	
TOTAL	8,481.6	9,255.3	9,025.5	

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Country	1981	1982	1983 2/	1984 3/
SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE				
ARGENTINA	307.4	271.4	331.0	350.7
AUSTRALIA	141.2	118.4	121.3	114.7
CHILE	137.8	139.0	154.7	162.6
NEW ZEALAND	34.3	42.1	33.9	37.9
SOUTH AFRICA	185.6	188.4	190.5	190.1
TOTAL	806.3	759.3	831.4	856.0
TOTAL SELECTED COUNTRIES	9,287.9	10,014.6	9,856.9	

1/ Includes apricots, sweet and tart cherries, peaches, nectarines, plums and fresh prunes. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast.

Commercial production of table grapes in the NORTHERN HEMISPHERE for the 1983/84 season is estimated at 3.8 million tons, marginally above the 1982/83 volume. Rains severely damaged grape crops in North America and the dry summer weather throughout Europe sharply reduced production in France and Spain. Japan, however, harvested a record crop.

The SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE's production of table grapes continues to expand despite three consecutive short crops in Argentina. In an effort to economize, Argentine growers have cut back on fertilizer usage. This has resulted in a steady decline in yields. In contrast, output in Chile has continually increased since 1976. New plantings of 300 hectares during 1983 brought total planted area to 17,000 hectares. Approximately 32 percent of this total represents non-bearing vines. Another 43 percent are vines in the "productivity increase stage" of development. Within five years, the present stock of vines in Chile is expected to yield an annual production level of 350,000 tons of table grapes.

TABLE GRAPES: PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES (1,000 Tons)

Country	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84 1/
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE			
FRANCE	167.9	163.3	144.7
GREECE	260.0	261.0	318.0
ITALY	1,435.5	1,304.2	1,446.4
JAPAN	309.9	338.3	346.3
MEXICO	165.0	167.0	166.0
SPAIN	494.0	539.0	511.0
UNITED STATES	477.4	640.7	594.2
YUGOSLAVIA	195.0	267.0	244.0
TOTAL	3,504.7	3,680.5	3,770.6
SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE	2,20.00	2,00012	2,
ARGENTINA	120.0	117.0	113.0
CHILE	152.0	190.0	210.0
SOUTH AFRICA	62.1	63.0	68.5
TOTAL	334.1	370.0	391.5
TOTAL SELECTED COUNTRIES	3,838.8	4,050.5	4,162.1

1/ Estimate.

Selected International Prices

Previous week : ago ROTTERDAM PRICES 1/ Per MT Per bu. Per MT P	Item	Jan. 2	4, 1984	Change from	
Wheat: Canadian No. 1 CWRS-13.5%11/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. 199.00 U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14% 194.00 5.28 +1.50 185.00 U.S. No. 2 S.R.W 160.00 4.35 -1.00 156.00 U.S. No. 3 H.A.D.11/ 208.00 5.66 171.00 Canadian No. 1 A: Durum.11/ 208.00 5.66 194.00 Feed grains: U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn 157.00 3.99 +3.50 123.75 Soybeans and meal: U.S. No. 2 Yellow 305.60 8.32 +3.60 237.25 Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets 4/ 258.00 +6.50 237.00 U.S. 44% Soybean Meal. 235.00 +3.00 213.50 U.S. FARM PRICES 5/ Wheat N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Barley N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Corn N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Broilers 7/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Broilers 7/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. EC IMPORT LEVIES Wheat 8/ 70.70 1.92 +11.05 108.40 Barley 41.75 91 +8.70 110.35 Corn 43.95 1.12 +4.20 103.55 Sorghum 58.45 1.48 +4.55 99.60 Broilers 9/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Common wheat (feed quality) 166.30 4.5395 184.80 Bread wheat (min. quality)10/ 181.65 4.94 -1.00 203.35 Barley and all other feed grains 166.3095 184.80 Broilers 11/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)				previous week	: ago
Canadian No. 1 CWRS-13.5%11/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. 199.00 U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14% 194.00 5.28 +1.50 185.00 U.S. No. 2 S.R.W 160.00 4.35 -1.00 156.00 U.S. No. 3 H.A.D.11/ 208.00 5.66 171.00 Canadian No. 1 A: Durum.11/ 208.00 5.66 194.00 Feed grains: U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn 157.00 3.99 +3.50 123.75 Soybeans and meal: U.S. No. 2 Yellow 305.60 8.32 +3.60 237.25 Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets 4/ 258.00 +6.50 237.00 U.S. 44% Soybean Meal 235.00 +3.00 213.50 U.S. FARM PRICES 5/ Wheat N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Corn N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Sorghum N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Sorghum N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Broilers 7/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. EC IMPORT LEVIES Wheat 8/. 70.70 1.92 +11.05 108.40 Barley 41.75 .91 +8.70 110.35 Corn 43.95 1.12 +4.20 103.55 Sorghum 58.45 1.48 +4.55 99.60 Broilers 9/. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. EC INTERVENTION PRICES 10/ Common wheat (feed quality) 166.30 4.5395 184.80 Bread wheat (min. quality)10/ 181.65 4.94 -1.00 203.35 Barley and all other feed grains 166.3095 184.80 Broilers 11/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)		\$ per MT	\$ per bu.	\$ per MT	\$ per MT
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U.S. No. 2 S.R.W					
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Soybeans and meal: U.S. No. 2 Yellow					
U.S. No. 2 Yellow		157.00	3.99	+3.50	123.75
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U.S. 44% Soybean Meal 235.00	Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets 4	/ 258.00		+6.50	237.00
U.S. FARM PRICES 5/ Wheat	U.S. 44% Soybean Meal	235.00		+3.00	
Barley	U.S. FARM PRICES 5/				
Barley	Wheat	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.
Corn N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. Sorghum N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q.					
Sorghum N.Q. N.Q. V.Q. N.Q. N					
Broilers 7/				-	
EC IMPORT LEVIES Wheat 8/	Broilers 7/				
Barley	EC IMPORT LEVIES				
Barley	Wheat 8/	70.70	1.92	+11.05	108.40
Corn	Barlev	41.75	.91		
Sorghum					
Broilers 9/					
EC INTERVENTION PRICES 10/ Common wheat(feed quality) 166.30 4.5395 184.80 Bread wheat (min. quality)10/ 181.65 4.94 -1.00 203.35 Barley and all other feed grains 166.3095 184.80 Broilers 11/					
Common wheat(feed quality) 166.30					
Bread wheat (min. quality)10/ 181.65 4.94 -1.00 203.35 Barley and all other feed grains 166.3095 184.80 Broilers 11/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)		166.30	4.53	95	184.80
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other feed grains 166.3095 184.80 Broilers 11/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)					
Broilers 11/		166.30		95	184.80
EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)			N.Q.		
	Wheat	25.25	.69	-1.35	76.15
Barley 24.00 .52 -3.80 87.60					
Broilers 9/ N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q. N.Q.					

I/ Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f., Rotterdam. 2/ Optional delivery: Argentine. 3/ Based on selected major markets and adjusted to reflect farm prices more closely. 4/ Hundredweight (CWT). 5/ Twelve-city average, wholesale weighted average. 6/ Durum has a special levy. 7/ EC category—70 percent whole chicken. 8/ Reflects lower EC export subsidy—down to 20.00 ECU/100 bag effective 14 Sept 83 from 22.50 ECU/100 bag set in Feb 1983. 9/ F.o.b. price for R.T.C. broilers at West German border. 10/ Reference price. 11/ April—May shipment. N.Q.=Not quoted. N.A.=None authorized. Note: Basis February delivery.

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